

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 278324

STADIS//////////

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY TODMAN

FOLLOWING REPEAT BRASILIA 9514 ACTION SECSTATE NOV 18

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 9514

STADIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ECON, XL

SUBJECT: CARIBBEAN COOPERATION

REF: (A) STATE 271895, (B) STATE 271643, (C) BRASILIA 9112,

(D) STATE 257579, (E) STATE 240637

1. SUMMARY. FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL, WHILE MAKING NO COMMITMENT, DISPLAYED POSITIVE ATTITUDE TOWARD POSSIBLE BRAZILIAN ATTENDANCE OF DECEMBER CONFERENCE ON CARIBBEAN COOPERATION. MATTER REMAINS TO BE REVIEWED AT SENIOR LEVELS WITHIN GOB. OFFICIAL INQUIRED WHETHER SUBJECT WOULD BE RAISED DURING SECRETARY'S FORTHCOMING VISIT. END SUMMARY.

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2. PURSUANT REFTEL (A), PARA 1, ECON/COMM COUNSELOR MADE PRESENTATION TO MINISTER PROENCA ROSA, (CHIEF, FOREIGN MINISTRY'S ECONOMIC DEPT.), NOVEMBER 17, COVERING SUBSTANCE OF REFTEL (B) AND (D) AND LEAVING TALKING PAPER. PROENCA ROSA RATHER THAN AMBASSADOR ARAUJO (CHIEF, WESTERN HEMISPHERE DEPT.) WAS CHOSEN AS INTERLOCUTOR IN LINE WITH DEPARTMENT'S DESIRE FOR LOW-KEY APPROACH.

2. PROENCA ROSA SAID GOB ALREADY HAD INFORMAL INDICATION BRAZIL WOULD BE INVITED BUT HAD NOT YET RECEIVED FORMAL INVITATION. HE HAD ALREADY HELD A PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION WITH HIS STAFF ON THE BRAZILIAN REPLY. PROENCA ROSA DID NOT INDICATE HOW THE GOB WOULD RESPOND TO THE INVITATION, BUT HIS ATTITUDE IN THE COURSE OF THE CONVERSATION WITH ECON COUNSELOR WAS POSITIVE AND INTERESTED. WE, THEREFORE, CONSIDER IT LIKELY THE MINISTRY'S ECONOMIC STAFF WITH RECOMMEND BRAZILIAN ATTENDANCE AT THE DECEMBER CONFERENCE.

3. PROENCA ROSA ASKED WHETHER THE SECRETARY, DURING HIS VISIT, WOULD RAISE THE SUBJECT. ECON COUNSELOR SAID EMBASSY HAD NO GUIDANCE ON THIS BUT THAT SUPPORT FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION IN THE CARIBBEAN WAS A HIGH PRIORITY OBJECTIVE OF THE ADMINISTRATION. AMBASSADOR TODMAN HAD CONSULTED EXTENSIVELY WITH CARIBBEAN LEADERS AND WAS, OF COURSE, STRONGLY INTERESTED IN THE MATTER.

4. RECOMMENDATION: WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL IF SECRETARY WOULD REFER TO CARIBBEAN COOPERATION AND POSSIBLE BRAZILIAN PARTICIPATION DURING HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH SILVEIRA. CRIMMINS. UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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